

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 138561

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 138561

NOFORN

FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY WILLIAM G. BOWDLER

FOLLOWING REPEAT BUENOS AIRES 4707 ACTION SECSTATE
INFO DA WASHDC USCINCSO COMUSARSO 26 JUNE 1974. QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOFORN BUENOS AIRES 4707

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, OVIP, CI

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT BY SECRETARY OF THE ARMY HOWARD H.
CALLAWAY

1. (CNF) DUE TO COMBINATION OF POLITICAL AND SECURITY PROBLEMS,
THE PROPOSED VISIT OF SECRETARY OF THE ARMY IN EITHER OFFICIAL OR
PRIVATE CAPACITY CANNOT BE APPROVED AT THIS TIME.

2. (CNF) THE ARGENTINE ARMY IS TRYING VERY HARD TO GET ALONG
WITH THE PERONIST GOVERNMENT, AND AS A RESULT HAS RELUCTANTLY
AGREED TO THE VISIT ONLY IF IT CAN CONTROL IT (I.E., PLAY
IT VERY LOW KEY) DUE TO VERY STRONG ANTI-U.S. SENTIMENTS OF
SEVERAL MINORITY POLITICAL PARTIES AS WELL AS CERTAIN SECTORS
OF PERONIST PARTY. FROM OUR POINT OF VIEW WE EXPECT DIFFICULT
TIMES AHEAD IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS AS SEVERAL PROBLEMS
COME TO A HEAD. FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY TO ARRIVE IN
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PAGE 02 STATE 138561

THIS PERIOD OF POTENTIAL CONFRONTATION WOULD NOT ONLY BE ILL-

ADVISED, IT WOULD ALSO SET HIM UP AS A PIGEON FOR WHATEVER POLITICAL ATTACKS MAY OCCUR, AS WELL AS EMBARRASS HIS ARGENTINE HOSTS. THIS POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE POLITICAL SITUATION, COUPLED WITH A VERY REAL SECURITY THREAT TO THE SECRETARY AND HIS FAMILY, MAKES HIS VISIT IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME.

3. (CNF) WITH SINCERE REGRET, THE COUNTRY TEAM JOINS ME IN RECOMMENDING THAT ARGENTINA BE DELETED FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY'S TRIP SCHEDULE.
HILL

UNQUOTE SISCO

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